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UNTIL
1983

98515

SUPPLIED
FOR THE
PUBLIC SERVICE

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E 1826/101

FROM

Chancery, Damascus

No. 18202/185/52.

Dated

Received in Registry— 23.10.52. 28.10.52.

Resettlement – Syria.

The £30 million agreement is still secret – Damascus. Reports on the Foreign Minister's statement on resettlement.

References

98515

(Print)

(How disposed of)

.....

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.....

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.....

.....

(Action completed) 3/11

(Index)

MINUTES

E. Dept: P.U.D. 31/10

30/10

42863

CONFIDENTIAL.

18202/185/52

British Legation,
Damascus.

23rd October, 1952.

Dear Secretariat,

You may like to know that the signing of the 30 million dollar refugee resettlement agreement is still a secret here, despite the publication in the "Egyptian Gazette" of the 16th October of an A.P. report from Beirut spilling the beans.

2. The Syrian Press have been allowed to quote only a statement from the Foreign Minister, issued on the 15th October, in which he said that Syria had decided to improve the living conditions of the refugees: two camps were to be transferred to areas with a milder climate, a special ward had been set aside for refugees in the T.B. hospital and an orphanage was being built near Homs for 85 refugee orphans. The only mention of UNRWA in the statement was the Minister's remark that of 10,000 refugee school children who were being looked after by the Government, 2,000 were in refugee schools, 3,000 in UNRWA schools, and the remainder in private schools with assistance from UNRWA and the Government. He added that 4,000 more children were to be given schooling.

3. There was no editorial comment on the Minister's statement.

4. We are copying this letter to Sir H. Knight, to Development Division, Beirut, and the British Middle East Office Fayid.

Yours ever,
CHANCERY.

Middle East Secretariat,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

IN C.B.
28 OCT 1952
SEAT IN DEPT.

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E 1826/102

FROM

Chancery, Beirut to E. Dept.

No. 1826/22/52.

Dated 24. 10. 52.

Received in Registry— 28. 10. 52.

Resettlement

Discusses the hunger strike of refugees in the Lebanon and letters received from the refugees protesting against the U.N.'s failure to repatriate them.

References

EE 1824/39.

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Dft Ch. Beirut to E Dept 14 Nov

(copy) Tel Amm. Damascus. Amman 14/11

(Action completed) 17/11

(Index) 24/11

MINUTES

Flattering though it is that we are still regarded as the source of all benefits and the redresser of all wrongs in the ME., I do not think we shd take up the case of the Shefa Amr cases with the I.C.C or the Israel Govt and thus incur the blame for their inevitable disappointment either with Shefa Amr as it now is or with their failure to obtain permission to return there.

J.G.S. Richmond 30/10

E. Dept. Path 30/10

Mr. Pullar

Arrangements were agreed upon between Israel and Jordan for some alleviation of the lot of villages whose lands had become divided from their lands, and for the reuniting of some families. These were direct agreements reached at a high level. It is not clear if similar arrangements were made for the Lebanon or Syria, but in any case the best method would be through the Mixed Armistice Commissions or the I.C.C. - preferably the former. I do not think we should intervene, but we might reply to the above effect.

H. A. Pullar 31/10.

42863

I am

I am sure the MAC is not the right channel. The PCC might, however, consider this case; and I wonder whether we should ~~be~~ not be entitled to get UKDel. to give a copy of the appeal to somebody on the Commission for such action as they might wish to take and ~~without~~ making it quite clear that we are doing no more than would any householder who readdressed a letter wrongly delivered to him.

James C Wardrop
3/10.

I have held this up while trying to find out the appropriate channel for reuniting families. Tel Aviv now inform us that it is the MAC Dpt. to Beirut.

J.W.B. Richmond
13/11

E. Dept. HAP 13/11

My mistake. I was quite unaware that the MAC did this sort of business and apologize for misleading you.

James C Wardrop
13/11

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

See within

A) Chancery, Tel Amo, to E. Dept.

(18201/31/52 of 6.11.52)

[illegible]
14/11

E

1825/22/52

CONFIDENTIAL

BRITISH EMBASSY,

BEIRUT.

24th October, 1952.

EE 1824/39

E 1826/102

Dear Department,

Our letter 1825/8/52 of 10th July forwarding letters from Palestine refugees organisations suggested that they might be part of a general campaign to press refugee demands.

2. Three days ago the refugees in Lebanon decreed a 'strike' (apparently a hunger strike) in protest against the United Nations' failure to implement their decision that Arab refugees should be repatriated. We have had telegrams from refugees groups in Tyre and Sidon emphasising their opposition to U.N.R.W.A. (the 'Agency of annihilation' as one termed it) resettlement schemes and demanding the refugees' return to Palestine. According to the press telegrams have also been sent to the Secretary General of the United Nations.

3. Previously we had received only four letters from groups of refugees in different camps, three of which make the usual demands and emphasise the refugees' determination to oppose resettlement outside Palestine. The fourth letter which is addressed to the Prime Minister pleads the case for the return of a specific group of refugees to rejoin their families in a village in Palestine. We enclose a translation of this letter, which we have acknowledged.

4. We understand that there is a scheme whereby the Israeli Government agreed to take back members of separated families (though comparatively few Arabs have been able to take advantage of it) and we wonder whether anything can be done for the petitioners under this arrangement. Repatriation, as opposed to resettlement, is not the business of the U.N.R.W.A. and an approach would presumably have to be made through the Palestine Conciliation Commission or directly to the Israeli Government. Please let us know if you decide to take the matter up, so that we can notify the petitioners.

5. We are sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to the Chanceries at Tel Aviv, Amman and Damascus.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

Eastern Department,

Foreign Office,

LONDON, S.W.I.

RECEIVED IN C.B.
28 OCT 1952
30
DEPT.

8

Baalbeck.
Wavell Barracks.
10-7-1952.

H.E. the Prime Minister of Great Britain,
c/o H.E. HBM Consul in Beirut.

Subject: - A request for our reunion with our families and relatives in our town (Shafa Amr), Palestine.

Sir,

I have the honour to present this letter to Your Excellency on my behalf and the behalf of the refugees of our town, Shafa Amr, in the Lebanon, in which I beg to explain the miserable situation of our condition having full confidence that it meets your sympathy and the consideration of Your Excellency and the responsible officials.

It is now about four years that we have left our homes and property during which our conditions have reached a very miserable state. As Your Government has agreed to the resolution of the United Nations Organization dealing with the repatriation of the Palestine refugees to their homes and land to practice their human rights and the freedoms of living in their towns and property: and as you have a clear conscience that feels with our pain and misery, I come in this letter with an object to explain as follows: -

1. At the time of the Palestine catastrophe a very small proportion of the inhabitants of our town, Shafa Amr, (10%) evacuated to the Lebanon and Syria; the rest (90%) are still living in Shafa Amr.
2. Shafa Amr is still inhabited by its inhabitants who, as usual, are practising their duties and work.
3. All the refugees of Shafa Amr in the Lebanon have close relations and parents, such as fathers, brothers, uncles etc. etc., in Shafa Amr.
4. All the inhabitants of Shafa Amr, at present, are Arabs - no Jews are settled in it.
5. Our houses in Shafa Amr are still in good condition and are occupied by our relatives.
6. Shafa Amr is situated in the Western part of Palestine i.e. in the Arab part according to the participation scheme of 1947.

I, therefore, on behalf of the refugees of Shafa Amr, beg Your Excellency to interfere with the competent authorities in favour of our repatriation to our town, Shafa Amr, and our reunion with our families and relatives, in the event of which we shall be most grateful and history will record and credit Your Excellency with such a human action.

Please accept my highest esteem and appreciation,

I remain, Sir,
Sgd. ALI AHMED EID.

N.B. Please notify me of the receipt of this letter.

Wavell Barracks,
Baalbeck,
Lebanon.

Bag 16/11. 14th November.

Registry No. EE 1826/102

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
~~Confidential.~~
Restricted.
~~Open.~~

Draft.

Chancery
Beirut
from
E. Dept.

Copy
Tel Aviv
Damascus
Amman

RECEIVED IN DIVISION
14 NOV 1952
SENT TO TYPE 11.45 a.m. 14/11
DESPATCHED

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(14487) 2/52 D.L.

SUAFILE

14/3

Dear Chancery,

You will now have seen from Tel Aviv Chancery letter of 6th Nov. (18201/31/52) that the ~~operation of the~~ Israeli Govt scheme for rewriting separated Arab families is operated through the Mixed Armistice Commission.

We suggest ~~therefore~~ that you ~~inform~~ advise the petitioners from Shefa Amr, ~~of this and advise them to~~ referred to in your letter 18/25/22/52 of 24 Oct, to address their request to the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission.

We are copying this letter to the Chanceries at Tel Aviv, Amman and Damascus.

Yours ever
E Dept.

13/11.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

(EE 1826/102)

14th November, 1952.

RESTRICTED

Dear Chancery,

You will now have seen from Tel Aviv's Chancery letter of the 6th November (18201/31/52) that the Israeli Government scheme for reuniting separated Arab families is operated through the Mixed Armistice Commission. We suggest that you advise the petitioners from Shafa Amr referred to in your letter 1825/22/52 of the 24th October to address their request to the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission.

2. We are copying this letter to the Chanceries at Tel Aviv, Amman and Damascus.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Beirut.

F.

BRITISH EMBASSY
TEL AVIV

(18201/31/52)
RESTRICTED

6th November, 1952

EE 1826/102

E 1826/102

Dear Department,

Would you please refer to Beirut's letter 1825/22/52 of the 24th October about letters from Palestine Refugees Organisations. We suggest that the refugees from Shafa Amr referred to in paragraph 4 of the letter might be encouraged to put forward their request through the proper channel, namely the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission. The scheme whereby Israel families in and outside Israel are re-united is operated through the Mixed Armistice Commission.

We are sending copies of this letter to the Chanceries at Beirut, Amman and Damascus.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W. 1.

RECEIVED
11 NOV 1952

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E 1826/103

FROM

Mr Myers
Beirut
To Miss Waterlow

No. AC/5/11A.

Dated 30.10.52.

Received in Registry— 10.11.52.

Oil refinery at Aden.

Plan to employ some Palestine refugees at the proposed oil refinery at Aden.

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Def Mr Cowldrey, ~~Bagdad~~ B/Trade

for Miss Waterlow 12/11

(Copied to Sir B. Reilly, C.O.)

(Action completed) 14/11

(Index) 24/11

MINUTES

CW 13/11

See within

A) Mr. Cowldrey, B/Trade to Miss Waterlow, CRE 24266/52 of 5 Dec.

CW 9/12

BF 1/1/53

Yes see /120.

CW 1/1/53

42863

AC/5/IIA
UNCLASSIFIED

Brit. Emb.
Beirut

30/10/52

E 1826/103

Dear Miss Waterlow,

Messrs. Geo. Wimpey and Co. have a contract to build an oil refinery at ʿAden. The Placement Officer of UNRWA is trying to get them to employ some Palestinian Refugees and is preparing a list of those who worked in the Haifa refinery.

However, their local representative Mr. Ross states that they are only going to employ British, Americans, and Indians - the latter because of their low wages and living standard. I heard unofficially however that they are also going to employ some thousands of Yemenis.

We are writing to H.E. at ʿAden about it. Could you intervene your end please?

Yours sincerely,

Miss Charlotte Waterlow, M.B.E.

RECEIVED
10 NOV 1952
SENT TO ART.

OUTFILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

12th November, 1952.

(Registry No.EE 1826/103)

We have heard from our Representative on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for the Palestine Refugees that the Agency's Placement Officer is trying to persuade Messrs. Wimpey and Company, who are building the Oil Refinery at Aden, to employ some Palestinian refugees on this work. The Placement Officer is preparing a list of refugees who worked in the Haifa Refinery for this purpose.

The local representative of Messrs. Wimpey has stated, however, that the firm are only going to employ British, Americans and Indians - the latter because of their low wages and living standards. Our Representative has heard unofficially, however, that they are also going to employ some thousands of Yemenis.

Our Representative is writing to the Governor of Aden on this matter, but has asked whether we could also intervene at this end. It would seem in fact quite likely that the best way of persuading Messrs. Wimpey and Company to recruit Palestine refugee labour would be by putting the matter to their Head Office here and asking the latter to send instructions to their local representative accordingly. If you agree, will you therefore raise this matter with the firm ?

I am sending a copy of this letter to Sir Bernard Reilly at the Colonial Office for information.

(C. Waterlow)

R.C. Couldrey Esq., C.B.E.
Board of Trade,
Commercial Relations and
Exports Department,
London, S.W.1.

c.c.Sir Bernard Reilly,K.C.M.G.,C.I.E.,O.B.E.,
Colonial Office,
The Church House,
Great Smith Street, S.W.1.

INDEXED

Telegraphic Address: Advantage, Parl, London.

Board of Trade

Commercial Relations and Exports Department

Horse Guards Avenue, London, S.W.1

Tel. Trafalgar 8855 Extn..... *Our Ref.* CRE 24266/52 *Your Ref.*.....

F 1826/103 (A)

5th December, 1952

Dear Miss Waterlow,

I have spoken to Messrs. Wimpey & Co., about the possibility of their employing Palestine refugees on the work of building the oil refinery at Aden about which you wrote to me on 12th November, (EE 1826/103).

They appear to be quite sympathetic but point out that their present intention was to use as far as possible local unskilled labour. The transport of Palestinian refugees to Aden and their repatriation would be an expensive matter but they might consider such a course in the case of skilled, or semi-skilled labour. They are going to speak to me again on this question.

Yours sincerely,

R.C. Couldrey.

Miss C. Waterlow,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

RECEIVED IN C.S.
6 DEC 1952
SENT TO DEPT.
8.12.52

1952

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EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E1826/104

FROM

Mr Bromley
Bagdad
to MLS

No. 1822/104/52.

Dated 8.11.52.

Received in Registry— 12.11.52

Palestine Refugees.

Discusses the recommendations on the refugee problem which have been made by the Political Committee of the Arab League.

References

-/77
98
97

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed) 17/11

(Index) 24/11

MINUTES

This is less negative than ~~the other~~ replies from other posts and indicates that Iraq may play a more helpful rôle than in the past, but we should be unwise to count on her absorbing more than a few thousand refugees at the very most.

JWBR 13/11

E. Dept. H.A. Pullar 14/11

14/11

42863

British Embassy,

BAGDAD.

1822/104/52.
CONFIDENTIAL.

8th November, 1952.

E 1826/104

Dear Secretariat,

Please refer to Richmond's letter to Sir Henry Knight, EE.1826/77 of the 22nd September, about the possibility of freer movement for Arab refugees between one Arab country and another.

2. I was not able until recently to talk in detail to the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs about this. I have, however, now seen the Under-Secretary in the Ministry who translated for me the recommendations on the refugee problem which had been made by the Political Committee of the Arab League at the recent meeting and accepted by the Council of the League.

3. These were briefly as follows:

(a) Families which were separated from their breadwinner should be allowed to rejoin him.

(b) Facilities should be given to refugees to pass from one Arab League country to another if they so desired, and the Palestine Committee of the Arab League should study the question of issuing a uniform Laissez Passer for the refugees.

(c) The principle is maintained that Arab refugees have the right to return to their homes, that proper compensation should be paid them, and that United Nations decisions should be implemented.

(d) The Arab States should try to find work for the refugees in their territories and should in general look after their welfare. Attention should first be paid in this respect to the Arab part of Palestine and then to territories adjacent to Palestine. Areas should be chosen for the provision of work and use should be made of U.N.R.W.A. funds for the purpose. All this is subject to the maintenance of the principle mentioned in (c) above.

(e) An effort should be made to relieve the burden falling on those Arab States with a considerable surplus of Arab refugees. There should be discussions between the Arab League States to see w whether they cannot take over and provide work for some of these refugees. In moving refugees, attention must be paid to the potentialities of the receiving countries and to the wishes of the refugees themselves.

(f) Arab countries which are not members of the Arab /League

Middle East Secretariat,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

1 2 NOV 1952

League should be politely stimulated to make a financial contribution. It is also hoped that there will be more funds forthcoming from U.N.R.W.A. (Yusuf Gailani explained that it seemed hardly fair that the burden should be borne by some of the Arab League States and by many U.N. members who had no direct interest in the problem while countries such as Bahrain and Kuwait (and indeed Saudi Arabia) which had plenty of money should be doing virtually nothing.)

(g) A Committee should be set up to study the resources available for providing work for refugees in the countries which are members of the Arab League.

4. In subsequent discussion with the Under-Secretary, I touched upon the possibility that some refugees might be able to go into another Arab League country to find work and perhaps be returned to U.N.R.W.A. if they were unsuccessful. He did not react particularly, but from what he had previously told me it did not seem to be altogether ruled out. Although Yusuf Gailani hinted that Iraq might in the future do rather more to help with the refugee problem than she had in the past, I am not sure that the Iraq Government would, even so, be prepared to allow very large numbers in. They will, however, no doubt admit a certain number of skilled workers for jobs for which Iraqis are not available, and have indeed done so to a small extent.

I am sending copies of this letter to Cairo, Benghazi, Damascus, Amman, B.M.E.O.(Fayid), and to Sir Henry Knight.

Yours ever,

H Bromley

for (T.E.Bromley)

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E1826/105

FROM

Mr Myers, Beirut

To Mr Richmond.

No. AC 100/10.

Dated

Received in Registry— 14. 11. 52 19. 11. 52

Resettlement – Gaza – Egypt.

Mr Carver has just returned from Egypt, where Gen. Naguib told him that he would not accept any refugees outside Egypt. Discusses Qattara depression

References

-/100
67

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed) 27/11

(Index) 10/7/53

MINUTES

I dont think there was ever any serious possibility of settling refugees in Egypt unless water had been found in Sinai. The Qattara depression idea has always seemed to me quite unrealistic.

I dont think Syria will accept refugees from outside unless the refugees already there are in a fair way of being settled successfully. If this happens Syria may very well take more refugees whatever may be Egypts attitude at that time.

African Dept. / 22/11
E. Dept. 25/11

20/11

42863

British Embassy
Beirut
LEBANON.

CONFIDENTIAL
(AC100/10)

14/11/52

E1826/105

Dear Richmond,

I have just seen Carver who has returned from Gaza and Egypt.

Naguib told him that he would NOT accept any refugees from the Gaza strip anywhere in Egypt, not even in Sinai, and this although previously younger officers concerned with the matter had spken of UNRWA producing big schemes for settling them in Egypt.

Carver fears that as it is Naguib who is leading the Arab league meetings this may mean that there is no hope of persuading Syria to accept refugees from outside either. He had hoped that Naguib might persaude Shishakly to do so but it appears to him that things are going the other way. This is of course problematical as at present.

Caffery told him that the Qattara depression was impossible technically and from a new paper from the States I have recently seen this appears to be so as its seems that 20 KWH are needed to ionise 1,000ø U.S. galls of water which, in fact, means that the 200,000 KW which would be available if the Qattara hy dro-electric scheme were put through, would only irrigate land for~~ty~~ 1,000 families.

Yours Sincerely,

J. Richmond Esq.,
MES
F.O.

RECEIVED IN C.B.
19 NOV 1952
SENT TO DEPT.
29
4

1952

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EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E1826/106

FROM

Chancery, Damascus.

To MES

No. 18202/229/52

Dated 21. 11. 52.

Received in Registry— 27. 11. 52.

Resettlement in Syria.

A Syrian newspaper has now been allowed to quote from "Time" magazine the text of the agreement

References

-/101

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed) 10/12

(Index) 53

Dundli

EE 1826/54(54)

1825/110

MINUTES

~~See also EE1825/52.~~

~~CW 29/11~~

E Dept. PMP. 4/12

I. D. Dept. 5/12

CWatalow 29/11

It looks as if the Syrians intend to allow knowledge of the agreement to spread slowly by leaks and not to make any formal announcement about it.

JWBR 3/12

42863

E

UNCLASSIFIED.

[redacted]02/229/52

British Embassy,
Damascus.

21st November, 1952.

EE1826/101

E E1826/106

Dear Secretariat,

In our letter No. 18202/185/52 of the 23rd October we reported that the signing of the 30 million dollar refugee resettlement agreement was still a secret here. However, a Syrian newspaper has now been allowed to quote from "Time" magazine the text of the agreement which the magazine apparently describes as a project for irrigating potentially rich unpopulated and undeveloped land in Northern Syria, where Colonel Shishakli expects to resettle Syria's 80,000 refugees.

2. The Syrian paper adds that Jews in the United States have always rejoiced in news items which seemed to show that Syrian policy towards the West or the United Nations was negative: now they are angry that "Time" has published Colonel Shishakli's decision to give a chance to displaced Palestinians to work in Syria.

3. We are sending copies of this letter to Sir Henry Knight, to Development Division, Beirut, the British Middle East Office, Fayid, and the Chancery at Washington.

Yours ever,
CHANCERY.

Middle East Secretariat,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

RECEIVED IN C.B.
27 NOV 1952
SENT TO DEPT.

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E1826/107.

FROM

Mr H. Knight, Beirut to Mr Richmond.

No. AC.100/10.

Dated 25.11.52.

Received in Registry— 3.12.52.

Resettlement in Syria.

Mr Carver has had talks with Gen. Nequib who refuses to resettle any refugees in Egypt. He had discussions also re. development in Sinai and Qattara Depression.

References

1/105

MINUTES

We shall hear more about all this when Mr. Carver calls on us on Dec. 11th.

C Watalow 5/12

1. E Dept (Mr Wardrop) 6/12
2. Africa Dept. RL 6/12
3. Mr Richmond on return.

9/12

Not encouraging on Nequib's attitude.

RL 6/12

CW 9/12

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed) 18/12

(Index) 23/7/53

42863

United Kingdom Delegation
Advisory Commission UNRWA
BEIRUT

(AC 100/10)

CONFIDENTIAL

c/o British Embassy,

BEIRUT.

25th November, 1952.

E 1826/107

Dear Richmond,

Carver visited Egypt whilst I was in Amman and he passed to Myers the following information about his trip.

2. He first saw some young officers working in the Government Committee for Palestine Refugees who spoke enthusiastically about UNRWA producing big schemes for refugee settlement and referred to Aly Shafai's plan for irrigating the N.W. corner of Sinai with surplus flood water to be stored West of the Canal and syphoned beneath it. (This plan envisages watering 400,000 feddans and the cost of the irrigation works was guessed by Shafai at £E 8 million.)

3. However, when later he saw General Nagib the latter said that not a single refugee was to be settled in Egypt, not even in Sinai.

4. During the same conversation the General said that he was leading the League along step by step and that this time no empty threats would be made but that threats would be carried out. As it appeared that Nagib regarded the refugees as a valuable political weapon, Carver put two and two together and fears that all hope of Nagib persuading Shishakly to take refugees from outside Syria is doomed: but this he admitted was only conjecture at present.

5. Nagib told him that he was convinced that the U.S. Government organised the German reparation payments to Israel and that the deliveries will be used to establish munition factories there. He said that this agreement has made it trebly difficult for him to get the other Arab States and his people to agree to a reasonable attitude on really important matters such as the Sudan and the Canal.

6. Carver saw our Ambassador and Mr. Caffery. Caffery seemed a very tired man. Caffery said that the scheme for a hydro-electric plant at the Qattara Depression combined with an ionisation plant was technically quite impossible. (Recent papers from the U.S. show that the ionisation of 1,000 U.S. gallons of water still takes 20 KWH, though they are hoping soon to reduce this to 10 KWH; 3 KWH is a reasonable figure for irrigation purposes, so at present he is right.) He went on to say that there used to be a sweet water canal running 80 Km. West of Mariut before the British cut the bund early in the 19th century and that this might possibly be put in order again.

7. A propos of paragraph 4 above, Myers recently met a young man (of Jewish origin) who is making a study of the

/refugee

J.C.B. Richmond, Esq.,
Middle East Secretariat,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

RECEIVED IN C.R.
-3 DEC 1952
SENT TO REGISTRY

refugee problem under a Rockefeller scholarship, and had recently had a long talk with the ex-Mufti of Palestine. The latter said that he agreed that refugees could be temporarily settled on the borders of Israel or in Sinai. As for the UNRWA report on the water resources of Sinai this was a British plot as he has documents to prove that the British found plenty of water there during the first World War when the Jews were thinking of settling there. (Incidentally he told the young man that the Jews were only tools in the hands of the British!)

8. I am sending a copy of this letter to Stevenson and Rapp.

Yours sincerely,

(H.F. Knight)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group . . . . FO . . . . . .

Class . . . . 371 . . . . . .

Piece . . . . 98515 . . . . . .

Following document(s) retained in the

Department of origin under Section 3 (4)

of the Public Records Act, 1958

EE. 1826/108

Jersey
16/4/82

IN PLACE
19/7/07

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E 1826/108.

FROM Mr. Barnes. Beirut (from Knight)

No. 463.

Dated 5.12.52

Received in Registry— 6.12.52

Last Paper.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel) Bahrain 968
Rpt) Beirut 1113
Kuwait 257 13/12
Amman 747 16/12

(Action completed.) [illegible] 18/12

(Index.) [illegible] 14/2/53

Next Paper.

Local Press reports Kuwait has asked Lebanese for 4,000 workers and officials.

Requests Kuwait be induced to take Palestine Refugees.

(Repeated: Bahrain 31 & Kuwait 10)

Mr Rose
E-Dept.

C Waterlow
9/12

Do we encourage migration of Palestine refugees to Kuwait or not?

NYES would naturally be in favour of ~~this~~ Knight's suggested action but E. Dept may have another point of view. If it is a straight choice between Palestine refugees and Lebanese to be imported I suggest that we ought to favour the refugees.

J.W.S. Richmond
9/12

We have discussed. I am not too confident in the ability of the Kuwaitis to handle the security aspect. Nevertheless Kuwait will undoubtedly need imported labour and the Palestinian refugees provide a useful source. We shall have to tackle the security aspect separately, but, if this report is true, we might take the opportunity of suggesting, once more, the appointment of a British Security Officer. Dft. telegram submitted

Clive M. Ross
[illegible]

31401 F.O.P.

/Do

12/12 D.A.6

Do you see any objection to this?
The security aspect will not be easy to handle but this is a problem in Kuwait which we have anyway got to tackle separately.

[illegible]
12/12

Security Department.

I see no objection to the telegram. On the wider issues we might perhaps consult Mr Reilly's friends & the Security Service.

[illegible]
12/12

Tel. sent.
[illegible]
13/12

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

EK 1826/108 E

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

Mr. Barnes
No. 763
5th December, 1952.

D. 10.43 a.m. 6th December, 1952.
R. 11.52 a.m. 6th December, 1952.

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Bahrain telegram No. 31 of 5th December.
Repeated for information to Foreign Office, Kuwait.

Following from Knight.

Local Press reports that Kuwait has asked the Lebanese Minister for Social Affairs to supply 4,000 workers and officials.

2. If this is correct, I should be most grateful if you could bring any influence to bear to induce Kuwait to take Palestine refugees, for as many as possible of these positions.

3. U.N.R.W.A. has been negotiating to supply Palestine refugees and for 4 months has been awaiting decision of the Kuwait State Department.

4. I press for this on grounds both of humanity and of relief of British taxpayer, who has to bear a considerable part of the cost of maintaining these refugees in idleness.

Foreign Office pass to Bahrain and Kuwait as my telegrams 31 and 10 respectively.

[Repeated to Bahrain and Kuwait.]

DISTRIBUTED TO:
Eastern Department.
Middle East Secretariat.
United Nations (Economic and Social) Department.

xxx

Registry No. EE 1826/108

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

C M R.

Draft.

Telegram to :— Bahrain (Residency)

No. 968

(Date) 13/12/52

Repeat to :— BEIRUT 1113
KUWAIT 254

Seen by Mr. Greenhill
[illegible] 13/12

Security Dept. [illegible] 13/12

~~En Clair~~
~~Code~~.
Cypher.

Distribution :— Departmental (Eastern; MES; U.N. (Exs.))

10 50 am
13/12/52

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(36302) Wt.21357/165 75,000 8/48 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685
(37421) Wt.40592/177 125,000 1/49 " "

F.O.,

CYPHER

(Date) 13/12/52

Despatched 13-2-52 M.

[Security classification —if any] CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Bahrain (Residency)

telegram No. 968 (date) 13/12

repeated for information to BEIRUT
KUWAIT

BEIRUT telegram no. 31 [5th December: Labour for KUWAIT] to you.

Is this correct? If ~~so~~ so and it is really necessary to import a labour force of this size, we would ~~not object~~ prefer ~~to~~ the use of Palestinians instead of Lebanese.

2. In either case however ~~it is important~~ the Kuwait Government should be warned ~~of~~ that it is essential to take adequate security precautions.

In the case of Lebanese the assistance of the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs could presumably be enlisted ~~but~~ and we would suggest that Kuwait Government should send someone to Lebanon to assist in selection and screening. If however Palestinians are to be imported, we assume that security check by U.N.R.W.A. would not be possible ~~out of the~~ ~~[illegible]~~ and great care would have to

/ be

RECEIVED IN C.B.
15 DEC 1952
SENT TO DEPT.

be taken by the Kuwaitis to avoid getting undesirables. Besides selection and screening by representatives of Kuwait Government we suggest visas should be limited to three months in first place and careful watch should be kept in Kuwait for any signs of undesirable activity.

3. This might be an opportunity to renew suggestion for appointment of a British security officer on the staff of Mubarak.

[illegible]
13/12

Distributed to.
Eastern Dept
UN (Economic & Social)
Middle East Secretariat

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BAHRAIN (RESIDENCY)

Cypher/OTP
EE 1826/108

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

No. 968
13th December, 1952 D. 3.20 p.m. 13th December, 1952

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Bahrain (Residency) telegram No. 968 of 13th December
Repeated for information to Beirut and Kuwait.

Beirut telegram No. 31 /of 5th December: Labour for Kuwait/ to you.

Is this correct? If so and it is really necessary to import a labour force of this size, we would prefer the use of Palestinians instead of Lebanese.

2. In either case however the Kuwait Government should be warned that it is essential to take adequate security precautions. In the case of Lebanese the assistance of the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs could presumably be enlisted and we would suggest that Kuwait Government should send someone to Lebanon to assist in selection and screening. If however Palestinians are to be imported, we assume that security check by U.N.R.W.A. would not be possible and great care would have to be taken by the Kuwaitis to avoid getting undesirables. Besides selection and screening by representative of Kuwait Government we suggest visas should be limited to three months in first place and careful watch should be kept in Kuwait for any signs of undesirable activity.

3. This might be an opportunity to renew suggestion for appointment of a British security officer on the staff of Mubarak.

DISTRIBUTED TO:
Eastern Department
United Nations Economic and Social Department
Middle East Secretariat

DDDD

EE 1826-108

(2)

CYPHER

REGISTRY No. [redacted]

REPETITION OF TELEGRAMS.

(Date) 16.12.52

(Despatched) 2.15 p.m.

(1) TELEGRAM SECTION,
FOREIGN OFFICE.

Please repeat to the posts shown below telegram No. 968

from/to FO / Bahrain dated 13.12.52

Amman No. 747. (Date) Dec 16

..... No.....

..... No.....

~~En clair.~~

~~Code~~

Cypher

11.45 a.m. 16/12/52.

(Signed) C Walton

(Dept.) ME Secretariat

(Date) 16.12.52

(2) DIVISION CONCERNED (FOR ARCHIVES).

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E FE 1826/109

FROM

Sir A. Knight.
Beirut.

No. A.C. 866

Dated 5. 12. 52

Received in Registry—
R. 12. 12. 52

movement of refugees from one country to another. Reports subject is being explored with Arab League and enclose copy of memo from U.N.R.W.A. General Counsel.

(Copied to Cairo, Benghazi, Damascus Amman, Baghdad & B.M.E.O. Tripoli

162

References

EE 1826/44—DEPT

MINUTES

15/12

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)	(Index)
16/12	19/2/53

42863

United Kingdom Delegation
Advisory Commission UNRWA
BEIRUT

c/o British Embassy,

BEIRUT.

(AC 266)
CONFIDENTIAL
~~UNCLASSIFIED~~.

5th December, 1952.

EE 1826/109

Dear Richmond,

With reference to your letter EE 1826/77 of September 22, 1952, regarding movement of refugees from one country to another, Blandford is having the subject explored with the Arab League and meanwhile has sent me a copy of a memo from the UNRWA General Counsel. I attach a copy of the latter.

2. I will let you know further developments.

3. I am sending a copy of this letter to Cairo, Benghazi, Damascus, Amman, Bagdad and B.M.E.O. Fayid.

Yours sincerely,

(H.F. Knight)

J.C.B. Richmond, Esq.,
Middle East Secretariat,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

RECEIVED
11 DEC 1952
SENT TO DEPT.

COPY

CONFIDENTIAL 27th November, 1952.

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Director

From: General Counsel

Subject: Issuing of Laissez-passer to refugees as per Sir Henry Knight's letter of 10th October, 1952

Freedom of movement across the borders of Arab countries for refugees who are able to find employment would, of course, be very desirable, but up to now when this problem has arisen, we have not been able to obtain the consent of the government concerned. The main reasons are as follows:-

(a) The everlasting fear of police authorities about spying, particularly as far as Palestinians are concerned, with the result of very strict rules for the crossing of borders. (This is most true in Syria.)

(b) The difficulty of obtaining from Arab governments, in spite of our efforts, a clear picture of their needs in manpower and professions, deprives us of a sound basis to discuss any privilege or facility of a permanent character for refugees' movements.

2. Sir Henry is perfectly correct in his suggestion that only an intergovernmental approach, maybe through the Arab League, would help to solve these difficulties. The admission of Syria and Jordan to the Advisory Commission will undoubtedly facilitate this step. Anyhow, I do not feel that it would be advisable to raise the question of citizenship as a factor in the decisions to be taken. This matter is quite outside our competence and the governments might resent our suggestion as a new form of interference to impair the repatriation rights.

Roger Fabre,
General Counsel.

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E 1826/110

FROM

B.B.C Monitoring

No.

Dated 8.12.52.

Received in Registry— 11.12.52

Egyptian help for Gaza refugees.

Radio reports on the project of mercy & humanity organised by Major Hasanayn at the request of Premier Hegib.

References

EE 1826/105
107

MINUTES

EW 15/12

(Print)

(How disposed of)

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(Action completed) 28/12

(Index) 1.01.53

42863

B7: EGYPTIAN MERCY TRAINS FOR GAZA REFUGEES

FE 1806/120

CAIRO RADIO REPORTS THAT VERY SOON A NEW PROJECT OF MERCY AND HUMANITY, +THE TRAINS OF MERCY+ WILL BE STARTINGS. IT HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY AN ARMY MAN, MAJOR HASANAYN, ~~IN ACCORDANCE~~ FOLLOWING A WISH EXPRESSED BY PREMIER MUHAMMAD NAGIB THAT PALESTINE REFUGEES IN GAZA SHOULD BE ASSISTED. THE MAJOR TOLD OUR RADIO REPORTER THAT THREE TRAINS WOULD PROCEED TO THE REFUGEES IN GAZA DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THIS MONTH. THE FIRST TRAIN WOULD START FROM ALEXANDRIA, THE SECOND FROM DUMYAT, AND THE THIRD FROM ASWAN. A GREAT NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN WOULD BE ON THE TRAINS TO COLLECT CONTRIBUTIONS AT STATIONS AND TOWNS.

ARMY TROOPS WISH TO BE IN THE FOREFRONT OF CONTRIBUTORS FOR THIS NEW BENEVOLENT MOVEMENT AND HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY HAVE CONTRIBUTED THEIR SUPPLY ALLOCATIONS FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE DAYS, SAID THE RADIO.

R Parsons 8/12.

END BBC MON 1100 8/12 BS. KY.

M.E.S.

Egypt.

RECEIVED IN C.O.
11 1952

Mr. Parsons,
R103

African Dept.,
F.O.

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E1826/112

FROM
Sir A. Kirkbride.
Tripoli (Libya)
To Mr Allen.

No. 1824/4/52.

Dated 28.11.52.

Received in Registry— 10.12.52

Resettlement in Tripolitania and Cyrenaica.

Agreement has been signed between Libya & UNRWA to admit 100 families to settle in both Tripolitania and Cyrenaica. Copied: Beirut, Fayid.

References

EE 1826/105

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)

ARC 29/12

(Index)

10/2/53

MINUTES

This will provide for about 1000 refugees.

~~African Dept~~
(pp are with you.)

[~~FOAAI are no longer interested~~]

C Watalaw
16/12

We hope. J.B. Richmond
16/12

The pp have travelled on.

I'm tempted to be cynical and hope that the arrival of these families will give the Libyan opposition a new topic for grousing, instead of British iniquities

J. Simpson
18/12

CW 24/12

42863

Ra 9/12

Enter

EE 1826/121

E

1824/9/52

British Legation in Libya,
Tripoli.

Unclassified

28th November, 1952

Dear Allen,

I am informed that an agreement has been signed between the Libyan Government and U.N.R.W.A. to admit one hundred families of Palestine refugees to settle in Tripolitania and a similar number to settle in Cyrenaica.

2. This action was taken in the face of considerable opposition, particularly amongst the Cyrenaicans.

3. I am copying this letter to the British Middle East Office (Fayid) and to Beirut for Knight.

Yours ever,

R. Allen Esq.,
C.M.G.,
African Department,
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

RECEIVED IN C.S.
10 DEC 1952
SENT TO DEPT.
15.12.52

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E 1826/113

FROM

Mr Pirie Gordon, Kuwait

No. 273.

Dated 14.12.52

Received in Registry— 15.12.52

Labour for Kuwait.

No knowledge of any requests for refugees. Further investigation will be made.

Add: Bahrain. Rpt: Beirut.

Last Paper

References

-/108

EE1825/4(53)

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes)

I have repeated this telegram, & the telegrams on /108, to Amman.

C Watkins 16/12

E. Dept. ~~[illegible]~~ ~~16/12~~

[illegible] 16/12

We must await further information.

[illegible] 16/12

CW 17/12

(Action completed) [illegible] 18/12

(Index) [illegible] 14/7/53

Next Paper

37330

E

CONFIDENTIAL

E 7826/113

FROM KUWAIT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Code R

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

Mr. Pirie Gordon
No. 273
14th December, 1952

D. 6.05 p.m. 14th December, 1952
R. 10.39 a.m. 15th December, 1952

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Bahrain (Residency) telegram No. 282 of 14th December, 1952
Repeated for information to
Foreign Office Beirut

E

Foreign Office telegram No. 968 to Bahrain.

Labour Recruitment.

Kuwait Government know nothing of such moves which, if they have any foundation in fact, have been made by the contractors privately, not through the Lebanese Government. I am finding out more about this, but I think contractors willing to take any labour [grp. undec. ? offered]. Jordan Government are understood [grp. undec.] refuse permission for recruitment.

Foreign Office please pass to Beirut as my telegram No. 26.

[Repeated to Beirut].

DISTRIBUTED TO
Eastern Department
United Nations (Economic and Social) Department
Middle East Secretariat

PPPP

15 DEC 1952

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E1826/114

FROM

Sir H. Knight
Beirut

No. AC 100/3

Dated 10. 12. 52

Received in Registry— M. 12. 52

Settlement of Refugees in Syria

On 8 December, accompanied by Mr. Myers and officials of Damascus Office of U.N.R.W.A., visited area East of Damascus and North Ateiba Marsh and lake

Gives impressions.

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)

HRC 29/12

(Index)

10/2/53

MINUTES

This is not very promising, but we always realised that the provision of anything better than marginal land for refugees by the Syrian Govt was unlikely.

JWBR 19/12

E. Dept. PAR 24/12

42863

(AC 100/3)

CONFIDENTIAL

c/o British Embassy,

BEIRUT.

10th December, 1952.

On 8th December Myers and I, accompanied by Simone, Delbès and Quzbari of the Damascus Office of UNRWA, visited the area East of Damascus and North of the Ateiba Marsh and Lake, which the Syrian Government have allotted for settlement of refugees. At our meeting yesterday I said that I would put down the impressions gathered from what I saw and what was told me.

2. Over the area of 160,000 dunums, it is thought that, if there is adequate sweet water, 20,000 dunums are cultivable and would provide holdings for about 300 families. In the event of large quantities of sweet water becoming available at a reasonable cost, it is possible that other parts of the land could be washed and made cultivable, but at a greater cost and as a long-range project. Only the 20,000 dunums are worth serious consideration at present.

3. A number of test wells have been sunk throughout the area and those providing reasonably sweet water are in the North central part where they would serve the 20,000 dunums of better land.

4. It has not been possible to discover whether this sweet water is present in adequate quantity to irrigate this area owing to delay in supply of a pump to test the wells. I understand, however, that a Damascus-made pump was due to arrive at Ramadan the day we were there and would be worked by the UNRWA tractor already on the spot. Till the test pumping has been carried out, the quantity of water is not known.

5. If it should be possible to get a reasonable quantity of sweet water, it might perhaps be practicable to put some families on the land this spring. One limiting factor would probably be whether pumps could be obtained in time or not. Apparently it takes about 8 months to obtain via UNRWA HQ imported pumps from date of order, and about 2 months to get a Damascus-constructed pump. Whether it would have paid UNRWA to have ordered pumps some months ago on the chance of their being needed and suitable, I do not dogmatize.

6. If the water supply, when proved, turns out to be adequate in quantity but of doubtful sweetness, it was suggested that only a few families would be imported to work on an experimental farm. At the farm experiments would be made to see what crops can be grown on water of the actual saltiness, to test if the soil improves or deteriorates on water being applied, to find the most suitable method of cultivation to keep the salt down, and to make all consequential studies. This farm should provide the data to discover what plants can be usefully cultivated, not only at Ramadan, but on other partially salty lands. An experimental farm would have to carry on for two years before the decision could be taken whether refugees could be settled on the land.

/7.

7. The wells were being bored by contractors. The official boring machine, which two years ago the Damascus office had asked for, had not yet been sent by Headquarters.

8. Some of the land allotted to UNRWA had been ploughed by other persons. I understood that the Syrian Government was told of this intrusion and said that if UNRWA found the land suitable for settling refugees then the Syrian Government would expel the persons who at present were ploughing it. But I am not sure that anything in writing to this effect was obtained. As the area is, I understand, part of the Ruwallah grazing grounds, perhaps UNRWA may expect some tribal opposition. A possible manoeuvre may be that, if UNRWA wishes to settle refugees, the persons now cultivating and the Ruwallah tribe will appeal to the Syrian Government and the Syrian Government will say that these people have some vague rights, but that, of course, if the UNRWA compensate them for these, the Syrian Government will see that they are removed.

9. The suggestion of pumping sweet water from Lake Ateiba is under study but it is likely to be very costly and carries the risk that, if the Syrians put a barrage on the Barada River, the lake will no longer provide a sweet water supply.

10. Taking it by and large, the following conclusions seem to appear:

(i) We do not yet know the possibility of cultivation here though the Damascus officials hope to make a report by the Middle of this month.

(ii) It may be some two years or more before we can say whether or how much of the land can be cultivated.

(iii) The practical working out of the scheme is somewhat handicapped by the local officials not knowing what maximum cost UNRWA will provide to settle a refugee family.

(iv) Until this is decided it is difficult to come to a conclusion as to the possibility of the Ramadan scheme.

11. The above is written only from one hurried visit but I did get the impression that getting refugees on the land in Syria may be a slow business.

(H.F. Knight)

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E1826/116

FROM

Sir H. Knight,
Beirut
to Mr Richmond.

No.

Dated AC 218.

Received in Registry— 12-12-52.
17-12-52.

Resettlement in Jordan.

Discusses $11 million agreement with Jordan. Encloses a progress statement on the projects.

References

ET 1013/12.

E. DEPT 2/1

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Dft:) Ch. Amman
John M.S.S. 29 Dec

(Action completed) L. [illegible] 30/12

(Index) [illegible] 14/7/53

MINUTES

The enclosures to Sir H. Knight's letter show that projects had been put in hand in Jordan, by the end of October, costing $2.85 m. But this includes $1.12 m for the Development Bank & 0.29 m. for the Yarmuk Survey. It is evident that the Agency are having difficulty in finding suitable projects in Jordan. From this point of view para 9 of Progress Statement No. 12 is interesting.

C Watalow
22/12

Yes. para 9 indicates that U.N.R.W.A does not rule out the provision of some funds for development of Jordan's mineral resources.

[illegible]
23/12

E. Dept.

9(a) & (c) are very odd. There is a road already, & quite a lot of rolling stock is already being provided out of our loan. In view of the forthcoming negotiations.

/we

42863

we might ask for Amman's comments.

Jas. Hunter
24/12

Letter to Amman.

PW 29/12

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

United Kingdom Delegation
Advisory Commission UNRWA
BEIRUT

c/o British Embassy,

BEIRUT.

(AC 218)

CONFIDENTIAL

12th December, 1952.

E1826/116

Dear Richmond,

Please refer to your letter (ET 1013/12) of the 25th November, 1952.

2. I consulted Blandford and he writes as follows:

"The £11 million programme agreement with Jordan is considered presently to include all projects started in Jordan, all technical training projects are therefore financed out of this fund. It is also the reservoir from which we have and will finance the Bank. It is our hope further to use it in the future for new projects on private lands and for certain industrial schemes now being worked up by the Ministry of National Economy.

In the two attached documents you will find information as to progress on the projects.

The costs of the Yarmuk Survey and the allotment of £515,760 for the approach road are temporarily financed out of the £11 million programme. Later these costs will be transferred to a Yarmuk programme and project record.

The TVA desk study is considered at the moment as a Headquarters project but later also will be transferred to a special Yarmuk project."

3. I send the accompaniments received from Blandford.

4. Progress is inevitably slow, but the opportunities of refugees establishing themselves in Jordan are limited and of course we shall not see the results of vocational training projects just yet.

5. The £1,121,438 which UNRWA is putting up towards the capital of the Development Bank of Jordan is largely unexpended because the Bank is not acting as rapidly or efficiently as one had hoped and Blandford is about, I think, to give us a report on the subject.

6. I am sending a copy of this letter to Amman.

Yours sincerely,

(H.F. Knight)

J.C.B. Richmond, Esq.,
Middle East Secretariat,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

RECEIVED IN C.R.
17 DEC 1952
SENT TO DEPT.
22. 12. 52

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF & WORKS AGENCY
FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

Ref : R/29

Date : 3.12.52.

Distribution

Country Representative (2)
Field Refugee Services Officer
Field Health Officer

Field Welfare & Education Officer
S.M.O. Reintegration
Field Reintegration Training Officer
Agricultural Officer
Public Relations Officer
Legal Adviser

Field Engineering Officer
Field Agriculture Officer
Projects Assistant
Economic Analyst

Field Administrative Officer
Field Finance Officer

Director's Office (10)
Field Reintegration Services Officer, Syria
Secretary General, Jordan Development Board
Programme Officer, U.S. T.C.S.
Economic Adviser to Jordan Government
Director, Operational Staff, Yarmuk-Jordan Valley Project
Director of Technical & Operational Staff, Ministry of Reconstruction and Development
His Excellency
Minister of Reconstruction & Development
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

PROGRESS STATEMENT NO. 12

This Progress Statement follows that published on 18.11.52.

1. Shera'a Geophysical Survey

The completion report is ready with the exception of details regarding final payment to the Consultant which are awaited from the Headquarters, Beirut.

2. Soils Laboratory

Contractual work is in progress. There has not yet been any delivery of materials or equipment.

../..2

3. Merj Naaja

(a) Exploratory Drilling - The contractor was not able to commence the testing of well X on first of December and has undertaken to do so on 10.12.52.

(b) Irrigation - There has been some delay on the part of the contractor, but the crusher is now on site and preparation of sand and aggregates will follow.

(c) Temporary Irrigation Scheme - Not all the domestic animals have yet been purchased, but the institution of the temporary irrigation of the area is proceeding satisfactorily.

(d) Pump House - It is estimated that pump houses will be finished by the end of December.

4. Beit Qad

All 13 houses have now been roofed and interior work is proceeding. 10 byres have been roofed and 6 cisterns completed. Excavations, foundations and walling for the community hall are also complete. The plans for the Beit Qad School are now ready and additional funds will be requested as soon as an addendum to the Project Agreement has been signed.

5. Battir Project No.1

In view of the refusal of the landlord to grant a longer lease than seven years, and in view of the landlord's insistence that all refugee housing on the estate shall revert to his ownership, the Minister of Reconstruction & Development and the UNRWA Representative have decided that this project should be abandoned. A completion report will be submitted in due course.

6. Ain Ariq

The submission of completion report is still being held up pending a decision regarding the costing of interim relief.

7. Yarmuk-Jordan Valley Project

(a) Policy Committee - The third meeting of the Policy Committee was held on the 22nd November. The work of the Sub-Committee on the draft compulsory lease law was not ready and was promised for the fourth meeting of the Committee to be held on the 6th of December. At this meeting the Director of the Operational Staff gave a resumé of the talks with the Syrian Technical Delegation which had visited Jordan during the previous week. It was reported that substantial agreement was reached on all points arising out of the technical content of the treaty. At this meeting the Director of Lands & Surveys stated that he was continually receiving applications to lease and develop Government land in the Jordan Valley and requested a recommendation regarding a policy which should be adopted in dealing with these applications at the present time. No final recommendation was reached. There was a discussion on the subject of expediting the surveys by dividing the work into separate sections and engaging a separate consultant firm on each.

(b) Aerial Survey - Difficult flying conditions have delayed the survey beyond the scheduled date of completion. Photography however is now virtually complete. The contractor will supply one set of field contact prints. As soon as they are available they will be used for preliminary soil surveys and delineating of the broken ground. It is expected that the mosaics will be ready in approximately one month's time.

(c) Prospectus - Prospectuses have been issued to four additional firms since the original eleven were despatched. Although only one bid has been received to date, it is expected that a total of six or seven will be submitted. Project Authority has notified consultant firms that the closing date for bids is 31st December 1952.

(d) Approach Road, Irbed - Magarin - A Project Agreement authorising the transfer of US Dollars 515,760 from the refugee self support fund to the Project Authority was signed on the 3rd of December and an initiation report is now being submitted. A contract for the supply of material has been signed and final arrangements for the supply and servicing of refugee labour are in hand. The road survey is progressing. Although no final decision has been reached whether the road should be constructed by contract or by force account, it is expected that it will be completed within a period of six months.

(e) Anti-Malarial Survey - The Anti-Malarial Survey in Jordanian territory was completed at the end of November.

(f) UNRWA Studies - A project for the economic and agricultural survey of the Jordan Valley has now been prepared and is with the Economic Adviser to the Jordan Government. The Field Engineering Office is currently engaged, on behalf of the Project Authority, on calculations connected with the draining of the Yarmuk discharge through the dam during the execution of the work.

(g) The Dam - There have been further delays in commencing drilling operations as a result of mechanical defects in specialised equipment and difficulties of executing repairs locally. Drilling is expected to begin shortly.

(h) Antiquities Survey - The Antiquities Survey is expected to commence after the arrival of archaelogical staff in January.

(i) The Operational Staff - There have been no further arrivals.

8. Wages Survey.

Problems connected with a depressed wage level and the removal of employed refugees from ration rolls are now under study in this office.

../..4

9. Administrative and Technical Staff in the Ministry of Reconstruction and Development.

The Ministry of National Economy has released the following four projects to the Ministry of Reconstruction and Development for implementation.

(a) Construction of a road connecting Aqaba Port with railhead at Ras el Neqb.

(b) Construction of a road connecting the manganes deposits with the Tafileh - Maan Road.

(c) Increase and improvement of rolling stock and railway facilities.

(d) Construction of a railroad sidings at the phosphate mines at Ruseifeh.

Consideration is now being given to problems connected with the extent to which these projects can be financed from the refugee self support fund, the benefits that will accrue to refugees therefrom and with the technical preparation of the projects concerned.

10. Economic Planning Division in the Ministry of Economy.

The Project Agreement for the institution of an economic planning division in the Ministry of National Economy has not yet been signed.

11. Amman Housing Scheme.

Occupation of the houses was completed according to schedule. UNRWA is continuing relief up to the end of this year.

12. Ghor Nimrin Tent Factory.

Mr. Meredith arrived in Jordan on the 19th of November. Firm estimates for the construction of the factory and its initial operation have now been prepared and are being submitted to the Comptroller with a revised initiation report. The engineers work on the designs, specifications, and bills of quantities will be completed on Monday the 8th December, whereafter arrangements will be made to have the work executed as urgently as possible by contract. There has been a first meeting of the tent factory Board of Directors at which the estimates and matters related to operational policy were approved.

13. Ghor Nimrin Agricultural Project.

In view of the very limited water resources, the Minister of Reconstruction & Development has agreed to the Field Agriculturist's recommendation that water and land shall be so distributed as to allow the 200 settlers at Ghor Nimrin to cultivate one dunum each as a supplement to their incomes from the Tent Factory. A Project Agreement, which is to include an element of grant assistance to the refugees concerned, is now being prepared by the Field Refugee Services Officer.

14. Ghaffirs Housing Scheme.

The progress is as follows:-

At El Ruman roofing completed and plastering commenced.

At Mujeb and Mukheiba walls completed up to ceiling level.

At Aluk walls completed up to arches.

At Hawayeh the Land Department has commenced the construction of a road, after which construction of the housing units will commence.

At Wadi Sh'ueib no decision has yet been taken regarding the site.

15. Occupational Index Project.

This project continues satisfactorily.

16. Training Projects.

The following is the present state of training projects.

(i) X Ray Technicians Training Project J/TR/103

Project continues in operation.

(ii) Midwives Training Project J/TR/104

Project continues in operation.

(iii) Nurses Training Project at Government Hospitals J/TR/105

Project continues in operation.

(iv) Pharmacy Attendants and Machine Packers Training Project J/TR/106.

This project is not yet in operation.

(v) Laboratory Technicians Training Project No.2 J/TR/112

Not yet in operation.

(vi) Teachers Training Project (Men) J/TR/108

Selection of students is taking place this week in consultation with the Ministry of Education.

(vii) Teachers Training Project (Women) J/TR/109

Selection of students is taking place this week in consultation with the Ministry of Education.

(viii) Sanitation Sub-Inspectors Training Project J/TR/107

Delay is still being experienced owing to the difficulty of finding a competent instructor.

(ix) Rural Teachers Training Project - Khadouri School No.2

Students have been selected, but arrangements for their reception by the Khadouri School are not yet complete.

(x) Cyprus Forestry Training Project J/TR/110

Project still in operation.

(xi) Vocational Training Centre (Boys) J/TR/111

The preparation of this project is almost complete and it is expected that tenders will be invited after the sixth of December.

(xii) Prevocational Training Project for Boys - J/TR/114

This project is in operation.

(xiii) Prevocational Training Projects for Girls - J/TR/115

This project is in operation.

The following three projects are now under preparation.

(xiv) Rehabilitation Training Project for Handicapped.

(xv) Vocational Training Center for Girls.

(xvi) Agricultural Training School.

J.B. Pruen
Field Reintegration Services Officer
Jordan

JBP/my

STENCIL NO.485/52

PROJECTS MONTHLY REPORT - OCTOBER 1952

This table includes only the projects approved by Governments and in process of completion. Projects under negotiation or completed before October 1952, are not included.

Country & Category	No. of Projects	Estimated direct cost $	Actual Expenditure $	Estimated No. of rations to be removed	Rations Removals Actual to date	Rations Removals During current month
HEADQUARTERS						
Training	9	99,187	19,763	168	69	60
Direct Assistance to refugees	2	9,196	4,591	18	8	-
Total	11	108,383	24,354	186	77	60
GAZA						
Training	15	51,328	11,310	12	-	-
Industrial, Commercial	1	22,070	20,146	-	-	-
Total	16	73,398	31,456	12	-	-
JORDAN						
Research & Planning	7	393,224	28,123	-	-	-
Training	12	574,042	11,601	3,324	10	3
Urban Housing and Community Facilities	1	68,376	-	250	-	-
Indutrial & Commercial	2	1,448,534	274,988	-	-	-
Agriculture & Land Development	2	145,896	75,083	259	99	34
Direct Assistance to Refugees	4	228,609	194,355	1,320	432	100
Total	28	2,858,681	584,150	5,153	541	137

Country & Category	No. of Projects	Estimated direct cost $	Actual Expenditure $	Estimated No. of rations to be removed	Rations Removals Actual to date	Rations Removals During current month
LEBANON						
Research & Planning	1	37,110	-	-	-	-
Training	6	45,030	22,726	148	40	-
Direct Assistance to Refugees	4	29,733	5,747	24	116	58
Total	11	111,873	28,473	172	156	58
LIBYA						
Direct Assistance to Refugees	1	28,460	-	115	-	-
SYRIA						
Research & Planning	2	125,549	19,025	290	51	22
Training	6	104,265	7,215	602	5	3
Agriculture & Land Development	1	41,335	1,734	127	11	4
Direct Assistance to Refugees	1	1,000,000	58,933	3,680	226	-
Total	10	1,271,149	86,907	4,699	293	29
GRAND TOTAL	77	4,451,944	755,340	10,337	1,067	284

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost $	(4) Actual Expenditure $	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) ÷ (6) $	(6) Rations Removals Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) During current	(9) Descriptions & Remarks
TR - Training			HEADQUARTERS					technical
SH/TR/101-1	Training, retraining and Extension Work	34,638	7,575	-	Unspecified	-	-	UNRWA/UNESCO/ assistance agreement for VT, adult retraining & visual aid. Technical training activities to start in November 1952.
SH/TR/101-2	Teachers Training in Iraq	23,984	9,170	400	60	60	60	In Govt. elementary rural colleges
SH/TR/101-3	Grants to Universities	12,150	-	135	90	-	-	Grants for scholarships. Estimate in (3) revised
SH/TR/101-4	UNESCO Scholarships abroad	1,356	33	452	3	-	-	UNESCO grants for post-graduate educators abroad
SH/TR/101-5	Secretarial Training	195	-	-	-	-	-	Teaching French shorthand at the Y.W.C.A. Project postponed for few weeks to end in November
SH/TR/101-6	Fundamental Training in Egypt	2,491	-	498	5	-	-	Choosing trainees from Gaza, will start in November 1952
SH/TR/101-7	Teachers Training in Egypt	13,623	-	-	-	-	-	In Govt. elementary rural colleges
SH/TR/102-2	Pharmacy attendants & Machine Packers	3,017	2,985	302	10	9	-	Course at basewarehouse. Trainees have completed theoretical and practical course
SH/TR/103-1	Training of Welfare Workers	7,733	-	-	-	-	-	Grant to N.E.C.C. to train Social Welfare Workers
	Total	99,187	19,763	-	168	69	60	
X - Direct Assistance to Refugees								
SH/X/103-1	Rehabilitation of Blind Orphans	8,100	4,021	623	13	8	-	
SH/X/103-2	Palestine Costume Drawings	1,096	570	219	5	-	-	Loan to print & sell traditional costume drawings
	Total	9,196	4,591	-	18	8	-	
	Total HEADQUARTERS	108,383	24,354	-	186	77	60	

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost	(4) Actual Expenditure	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) : (6)	(6) Rations Removals Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) During current month	(9) Descriptions and Remarks
		£	£	£				
			GAZA					
TR - Training								
G/TR/101	Nurses Training Course	3,960	2,060	330	12	-	-	Training Nurses at CMS Hospital
G/TR/103	Commercial Training Course	1,469	956	-	-	-	-	Training 12 persons on commercial subjects
G/TR/104	Car Maintenance & Repairs Course	2,163	763	-	-	-	-	Training 20 refugees at Gaza Orphanage Institute
G/TR/106	Welfare Embroidery Training	20,640	3,762	-	-	-	-	Self-supporting project
G/TR/107	Welfare Sewing Training	2,892	337	-	-	--	-	Training in sewing, fitting and cutting for young girls
G/TR/108	Weaving and rug-making Training	1,880	150	-	-	-	-	Producing small rugs and fancy items
G/TR/109	VT - Bookbinding	1,664	187	-	-	-	-	Training 10 pupils at Imam Shafi Boys School
G/TR/110	" Weaving	6,152	1,892	-	-	-	-	Training 100 pupils on hand looms in schools
G/TR/111	" Sewing & Embroidery	2,721	-	-	-	-	-	Training in Schools
G/TR/112	" Domestic Science	461	-	-	-	-	-	Training in Schools
G/TR/113	" Literacy Campaign	2,925	-	-	-	-	-	Teaching of adults
G/TR/114	" Agriculture	1,417	406	-	-	-	-	Training 10 pupils
G/TR/115	" Straw, brush and Cane-making	775	213	-	-	-	-	Training 10 pupils at Imam Shafi Boys School
G/TR/116	" Shoe-making	1,022	187	-	-	-	-	Training 10 pupils at Imam Shafi Boys School
G/TR/117	" Carpentry	1,187	397	-	-	-	-	Training 20 pupils at Imam Shafi Boys School
	Total	51,328	11,310	-	12	-	-	

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost £	(4) Actual Expenditure £	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) ÷ (6) £	(6) Rations Removals Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) During current month	(9) Description and Remarks
			GAZA (continued)					
IC - Industrial								
G/IC/101	Weaving - Gaza	22,070	20,146	-	-	-	-	Agency operated looms
	Total GAZA	73,398	31,456	-	12	-	-	
			JORDAN					
RE - Research and Planning								
J/RE/102	Working party for preparation of projects	13,157	8,620	--	-	-	-	To cover small surveys & estimates
J/RE/103	Soils Laboratory	30,562	170	-	-	-	-	To examine State & Private Lands
J/RE/106	Geophysical Survey - Sheraa	23,694	11,112	-	-	-	-	Awaiting concultant's final report Revised expenditures
J/RE/109	Yarmuk Jordan Valley Survey	290,000	3,716	-	-	-	-	Preparatory work in progress
J/RE/110	Wages Survey	952	513	-	-	-	-	Work almost completed
J/RE/111	Azrak Major Scheme - Preliminary Survey	3,992	3,992	-	-	-	-	Completed. Agricultural settlement postponed
J/RE/112	Establishment of an Administrative and Technical Staff within the Min. of D. & R.	30,867	-	-	-	-	-	The newly appointed Director is preparing a programme of projects
	Total	393,224	28,123	-	-	-	-	

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost ₤	(4) Actual Expenditure ₤	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) ÷ (6) ₤	(6) Rations Removals Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) During current month	(9) Descriptions & Remarks
			JORDAN (continued)					
TR - Training								
J/TR/102	Teachers Training	4,200	3,998	56	75	-	-	Completed. Trainees awaiting employment
J/TR/103	X-Ray Technicians	966	562	97	10	2	-	Training at A ugusta Victoria Hospital
J/TR/104	Midwifery Training	2,730	991	78	35	3	-	-ditto-
J/TR/105	Nurses Training	4,200	3,675	420	10	2	-	Training at Government Hospitals
J/TR/106	Pharmacy Attendants & Machine Packers	5,194	2,375	130	40	-	-	A ugusta Victoria Hospital
J/TR/107	Sanitary Sub-inspectors course	7,756	-	323	24	-	-	Training of six refugees in Jerusalem
J/TR/108	Teachers Training	50,260	-	1,005	50	-	-	Training teachers at Annajah College, Nablus
J/TR/109	Teachers Training	51,513	-	1,030	50	-	-	Training women teachers at Ramallah
J/TR/110	Cyprus Forestry College Training	6,774	-	-	-	-	-	Training three candidates at Cyprus Forestry College
J/TR/111	Vocational Training Centre for refugees	400,000	-	134	2,980	-	-	Construction of a VT Centre for 612 trainees in several trades at Kalandia airport
J/TR/112	Laboratory technicians Training	29,218	-	1,461	20	3	3	Training forty Laboratory technicians at Govt. Central Laboratory, Jerusalem
J/TR/113	Rural Teachers Training	11,231	-	374	30	-	-	Training teachers at Khadoorie School
	Total	574,042	11,601	-	3,324	10	3	

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost $	(4) Actual Expenditure $	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) ÷ (6) $	(6) Rations Removals Estimated	(7) Actual To Date	(8) During current month	(9) Description & Remarks
			JORDAN (continued)					
UH - Urban Housing								
J/UH/101	Amman Housing	68,376	-	273	250	-	-	The regulations for the occupancy and administration of the Amman Housing are before the Prime Minister for approval
IC - Industrial, Commercial								
SJ/IC/101	Development Bank of Jordan Ltd.	1,121,438	274,988	-	unspecified	-	-	(3) Total share of the Agency in the Bank's capital (4) Amounts paid to date out of approved loans (7) 560 refugees to be employed
SJ/IC/102	Tent Factory	327,096	-	-	-	-	-	Estimates and specifications for construction of a tent factory are being prepared. Invitation to tenders will be made 1 Dec. 1952
	Total	1,448,534	274,988	-	-	-	-	
AG - Agriculture & Land Development								
J/AG/101	Marj Naja Settlement	125,858	64,040	78	160	-	-	Agricultural settlement of 32 families
J/AG/103	Beit Qad Settlement	20,038	11,043	202	99	99	34	Agricultural settlement of 13 families. Work proceeding satisfactorily
	Total	145,896	75,083	-	259	99	34	

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost ₰	(4) Actual Expenditure ₰	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) ÷ (6) ₰	(6) Rations Removal Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) During current month	(9) Descriptions & Remarks
X - Direct Assistance to Refugees			JORDAN (continued)					
J/X/101	Placement Services	44,533	10,439	-	Unspecified	200	100	Covers individual sub-projects under this Head. Great prospect for Placement Service Office in its mission is foreseen
J/X/102	Ghaffir Housing	8,296	8,296	138	60	-	-	Construction of houses for twelve families
J/X/103	Loans issued by Loans Section	175,095	175,095	140	1,250	232	-	No change in situation. No new loans will be approved. Awaiting repayments
J/X/104	Ein Arik	685	525	68	10	-	-	Agricultural establishment of two families
	Total	228,609	194,355	-	1,320	432	100	
	Total JORDAN	2,858,681	584,150	-	5,153	541	137	

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost ₤	(4) Actual Expenditure ₤	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) ÷ (6) ₤	(6) Rations Removal Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) During current month	(9) Descriptions & Remarks
			LEBANON					
RE - Research and Experimentation								
L/RE/101	Jisr El Pacha Shelter construction scheme	37,110	-	-	-	-	-	Pilot project construction for 209 families
TR - Training								
L/TR/101	Technical Training for Mechanics	31,523	14,451	630	50	40	-	Training mechanics at Kobbe School
L/TR/102	Summer Courses for Teachers	4,622	4,332	-	-	-	-	Completion report will be submitted after settlement of outstanding financial transactions
L/TR/103	Commercial Training Course for male students	3,852	2,369	64	60	-	-	Training students at the New Evening School
L/TR/104	Commercial Training Course for female students	1,293	443	65	20	-	-	Training student s at the Y.W.C.A.
L/TR/105	Assistance to last year A.U.B. students	2,480	-	310	8	-	-	To enable last year students to complete their studies
L/TR/106	Nurse Aid/Childbirth Attendants course	1,260	1,131	126	10	-	-	
	Total	45,030	22,726	-	148	40	-	
X - Direct Assistance to Refugees								
L/X/101	Grants-in-aid to Benevolent Agencies	986	329	-	-	-	-	Social Case work
L/X/104	Missourata Settlement Scheme	4,822	1,370	201	24	11	-	Loan to settle five craftsmen and families in Libya. Expenditure figure does not include amount spent by Liaison Officer, N.Africa
	c/f	5,808	1,699	201	24	11	-	

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost $	(4) Actual Expenditure $	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) ÷ (6) $	(6) Rations Removals Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) During current month	(9) Descriptions & Remarks
X - Direct Assistance to Refugees			LEBANON (continued)					
	c/f	5,808	1,699	201	24	11	-	
L/X/106	Social Case Work	6,660	954	-	-	-	-	Conducted directly by UNRWA
L/X/107	Placement Services	17,265	3,094	30	unspecified	105	58	(5) shows the actual expenditure per ration removed
. . .	Total	29,733	5,747	-	24	116	58	
	Total LEBANON	111,873	28,473	-	172	156	58	
			LIBYA					
X - Direct Assistance to Refugees								
S/LY/X/101	Loans to Artisans in Cyrenaica	28,460	-	247	115	-	-	Loans to 23 artisans to enable them to become self-supporting

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost	(4) Actual Expenditure	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed	(6) Rations Removals Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) During current month	(9) Descriptions & Remarks
		£	£	(3) ÷ (6) £				
			SYRIA					
RE - Research, Planning & Experimentation								
S/RE/105	General Survey & Water Researches	21,197	10,484	106	200	-	-	Survey on lands to be given by Syrian Government.
S/RE/106	Ramadan Lands	104,352	8,541	1,159	90	51	22	General survey of 16,000 hectars estate. Temporary removal from rations. Work running slower than expected due to non-availability of equipment already ordered
	Total	125,549	19,025	-	290	51	22	
TR - Training								
S/TR/103	Training Laboratory Attendants	378	351	189	2	2	-	The 2 trainees passed their examination successfully. Project completed & considered as closed
S/TR/104	Commercial Training Course	15,025	-	83	180	-	-	Two courses for six months each for 90 trainees
S/TR/105	Industrial Training Course	6,559	16	164	40	-	-	Trainees have started training in workshops
S/TR/106	Agriculture Training Course	11,866	-	60	200	-	-	Agricultural Schools to start 1.11.52
S/TR/107	Dressmaking Course	15,745	574	157	100	3	3	Suitable premises were hired. Project started
S/TR/108	Daba'a Camp	54,692	6,274	684	80	-	-	Orphanage combined with Project S/AG/101. Work resumed after a short interruption
	Total	104,265	7,215	-	602	5	3	

(1) Project No.	(2) Name of Project	(3) Estimated direct cost $	(4) Actual Expenditure $	(5) Estimated cost per ration removed (3) - (6) $	(6) Rations Removals Estimated	(7) Actual To date	(8) Actual During current	(9) Descriptions & Remarks
			SYRIA (continued)					
AG - Agriculture & Land Development								
S/AG/101	Daba'a Agricultural Project	41,335	1,734	325	127	11	4	Work resumed after a short interruption
X - Direct Assistance to Refugees								
S/X/101	Loans	1,000,000	58,933	271	3,680	226	-	(3) shows the amount of loans the issue of which is authorised and (5) & (6) the estimated rations to be removed and the average cost. (4) & (7) concern only the loans actually issued
	Total SYRIA	1,271,149	86,907	-	4,699	293	29	

AJA/mep
14th November 1952

Maurice P. Bart
Assistant Programme Officer

DRAFT

(EE 1826/116)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL.

29th December, 1952.

OUT FILE

Dear Chancery,

We note from Paragraph 9 of U.N.R.W.A's Progress Statement No.12 enclosed with Sir Henry Knight's letter AC 218 of the 12th December to Richmond (copy to you), that U.N.R.W.A. is considering the possibility of providing some finances for certain road and railway development projects in Jordan. We are somewhat surprised at the suggestion that U.N.R.W.A. should finance in particular the projects referred to at Paragraph 9(A) and (C) since as regards (A) the road exists already; and as regards (C) purchase of rolling stock is, as you know, being financed from our Development Loan. In view of the forthcoming negotiations for a third British loan, we should be grateful for your comments and those of Sir Henry Knight on this paragraph.

2. We are sending a copy of this letter to Sir Henry Knight.

Yours ever,

MIDDLE-EAST SECRETARIAT.

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Amman.

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

EE 1826/114

FROM

B.B.C. Monitoring Report

No.

Dated 5. 12. 52

Received in Registry— 20. 12. 52

Premier Shishakli has announced Syrian Government will collaborate with U.N.R.W.A. to improve conditions of refugees in Syria

REFERENCES

EE 1826/115

MINUTES

CW 2252

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)	(Index)
23/12	10/1/53

38679

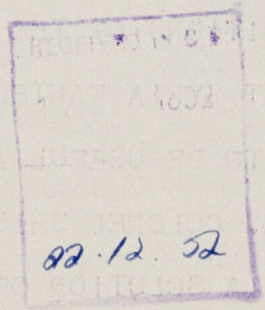
B22 = SYRIA TO COOPERATE WITH UNRWA IN AID TO REFUGGEES

1) Mr Rick
2) Enter

(CAIRO RADIO IN ENGLISH 1830) IN DAMASCUS DEPUTY PREMIER SHISHAKLI ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT IS TO COLLABORATE WITH THE UN RELIEF AND WORK AGENCY TO IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF THE PALESTINE REFUGEES IN SYRIA. HE TOLD REPORTERS THAT SYRIA WANTED TO PREPARE THE REFUGEES FOR A DIFFERENT LIFE AND TO BE USEFUL AND EFFECTIVE ELEMENTS IN A FUTURE LIBERATING CAMPAIGN. COLONEL SHISHAKLI WARNED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT TOLERATE A SOLUTION OF THE PALESTINE PROBLEM WHICH DID NOT GUARANTEE THAT THE REFUGEES WERE RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES AND COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF PROPERTY.

EE 1826/117

END BBC MON = 1942 5/12 = RP.


22.12.52

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E 1826/118

FROM

Mr. A. C. I. Samuel
Damascus

No. 18202/252/52

Dated 11. 12. 52

Received in Registry— 14. 12. 52

Dr. Depage gives list of land allotted to U.N.R.W.A by Syria and states for $30 million to end June 1954 Syria must allott each month land to settle 400 families.

Copied to Sir H. Knight and B.M.E.O. Sayid)

References

EE 1826/101

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed) [illegible] 23/12

(Index) [illegible] 1953

MINUTES

It would be interesting to have some rough idea of the amount & whereabouts of cultivable state land in Syria which could, in principle, be offered to the refugees. Presumably there is plenty of such land in ~~Syria~~ the Jezira, particularly if the recent Decree expropriating landlords who have encroached on state land without title, is enforced.

C. Waterlow
22/12

All the land in question so far is near Damascus. Govt land certainly is available in the Jezirah but for the moment neither Syrian Govt nor refugees would welcome the idea of settling Palestinians on it.

[illegible]
23/12

42863

18202/252/52

CONFIDENTIAL.

British Embassy,

DAMASCUS.

11th December, 1952.

E

E 1826/118

My dear Richmond,

Dr. Depage, the UNRWA country Director for Syria, has given us the following list of state land so far allotted to UNRWA by the Syrian authorities:-

	Total of land (dunums)	Total proportion cultivable (dunums)	Estimated No. of families which could be settled.
Dabaa	1,800	1,200	20
Ramadane	160,000	20,000	400
Nazriyeh	40,000	8,000	160
El Dabah	60,000	12,000	200
	261,800	41,200	780

2. Depage said that for 30 million dollars to be committed by the end of June 1954, the Syrians would have to allot sufficient land to UNRWA each month to settle 700 families. It was therefore most important for the success of the resettlement plan that the Syrians should be induced to keep up the pace of allotment of land. Although there were private land-owners who were ready to come to terms with UNRWA for the swift resettlement of all the refugees in Syria, Depage thought that there was no chance that the authorities would agree to resettlement on private land. They had made the excuse to UNRWA that a refugee would have no security on private land; he might at any time be ejected by the landlord. The truth was, Depage thought, that the régime was against giving landlords any chance to benefit from refugee labour.

3. Depage considered that he already had adequate expert staff to undertake the resettlement programme. He was also able to draw on the services of the Food and Agriculture Organization experts here. The Syrian authorities were liable to be upset if he engaged new staff who were not Syrians. He had made it clear to them however that at least a few of his senior staff such as the heads of Administrative and Supplies Departments must be "international".

4. Depage had been impressed with Ali Dandashi, the temporary head of P.A.R.I. in Syria (in the absence of Dr. Daoudi with the Syrian Delegation at the United Nations). Dandashi was a senior Foreign Service Officer who would be, in his view, a much more suitable representative of Syria on ADCOM than the youthful and ambitious Daoudi who, before going to the United Nations, had seemed to be hankering after the job. Depage thought it was not impossible that the same person might combine both posts.

5. I am sending a copy of this letter to Sir Henry Knight and to the British Middle East Office, Fayid.

Yours ever

Ian Samuel

(A.C.I.Samuel).

J.C.B.Richmond, Esq.,
Middle East Secretariat,
Foreign Office,
S. W. 1.

RECEIVED
22.12.52

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E1826/119

FROM
Chancery Beirut
comm'd
(to Ali Ahmed Eid)

No. 1825/34/52

Dated 10.12.52

Received in Registry— 19.12.52

Shafr Amr Refugees – letter to U.K. Prime minister 10th July.

Suggests case be put to Israel – Lebanese mixed Armistice Commission

References

EE1826/102

MINUTES

E Dept (Mr Pullar.)

HAP 23/12

EW 23/12

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)	(Index)
ARC 29/12	[illegible] 10/7/53

42863

EMBASSY,
XXXXXXX

10th December, 1952.

(1825/34/52)

Sir,

I am directed by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to refer to this Embassy's letter No. 1825/26/52 of the 1st November about the case of the refugees from Shafa Amr, put forward in your letter of 10th July to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

Her Majesty's Government unfortunately cannot directly help refugees to return to their homes and I would suggest that you take up the case with the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission who operate a scheme whereby separated Arab refugee families in and outside Israel may be reunited. It is possible that under this scheme some at any rate of the refugees from Shafa Amr may be able to return to their homes.

If you decide to put your case to the Commission I would advise you to address your request to General Riley, Chairman of the Mixed Armistice Commission, at the United Nations Organisation Headquarters, Essely Building, Beirut.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(J.L. Taylor)

Mr. Ali Ahmed Eid,
Wavell Barracks,
BAALBECK.

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E 1826/120

FROM

Geo. Wimpey & Co. Ltd
commit
(to Mr. Couldrey, B/Trade)

No. AD2/P/PWL/MM/19

Dated 15.12.52

Received in Registry— 29.12.52

Refugee labour at Aden

Views of Middle East Bechtel Corpn have been obtained.

It has been decided that present arrangements should stand and experience gained before investigating further.

References

EE 1826/103
EE. 1825/9

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Dft) Mr. O. Myers, Burnt from Miss Waterlow. 5 Jan

Dft) Mr. Couldrey B/Trade from Miss Waterlow. 5 Jan

(Action completed)

[illegible] 19/1

(Index)

[illegible] 19/1/53

MINUTES

This is disappointing. I will inform Mr Myers. Do you think it would be worth asking the Bd of Trade to circularise all the main British contractors in the ME about the possibility of using refugee labour (we took this point up with them in connection with Iraq alone some months ago.)

CWaterlow
1/1/53

I think it might be a good idea although employment with British contractors in necessarily temporary jobs has disadvantages unless some arrangements are made to return the refugees to UNRWA's care when the job is finished.

Before considering this further we should know the range of skills available among the refugees and the numbers in each trade.

On second thoughts I am inclined to think that such a circular shd be sent out by the Agency direct if they consider it worthwhile. Let us make the suggestion to Myers

JWBR
3 1/7

42863

Miss Waterlow
Letters to Mr Myers & B. of Trade sent.
CW 5/1 BF 12/1

PTO

B of Trade are preparing a list.

List ~~attached~~ received. Draft to CW 13/1

Mr Myers — see E E 1825/8 of 1953. CW 14/1

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

COPY

GEORGE WIMPEY & CO., LIMITED

Hammersmith Grove,
London, W.6.

AD2/P/PWL/MW/19

15th December, 1952.

Commercial Relations Department,
The Board of Trade,
Horse Guards Avenue,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

For the attention of Mr. Couldrey.

Dear Sirs,

Aden Project
Employment of Palestinian Refugee Labour

With reference to telephone conversation Mr. Couldrey/Mr. Loveday of 4th December we have looked into this matter very carefully ourselves and have already requested the views of the Middle East Bechtel Corporation.

2. As a result our general feeling is that present arrangements for recruitment of labour are so far advanced that they must be allowed to stand until we have experience of them. Should it then be found that other sources require to be investigated we shall certainly examine closely the possibility of using the above labour.

3. We regret therefore that at the moment there is nothing further we can do in this matter.

Yours faithfully,
for GEORGE WIMPEY & CO., LIMITED

(Sgd.) P.W. Loveday
Overseas Department.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

5th January, 1953.

DRAFT
EE1826/120

I enclose a letter which I have sent to Mr. Myers, the deputy British representative on U.N.R.W.A., which is I think self-explanatory. I should be grateful if you could let me have a list of British firms working ~~for~~ Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi-Arabia and the Persian Gulf, who might be prepared to employ refugee labour if approached by U.N.R.W.A.

(C. Waterlow)

R.C. Couldrey, Esq., C.B.E.
Board of Trade.

OUT FILE

(EE 1826/120)
DRAFT

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

5th January, 1953.

You wrote to me on the 30th October 1952 (you reference AC/5/IIA) on the question of getting Messrs. Wimpey & Co., to employ Arab refugees on the construction of the Aden Oil Refinery.

2. I took this matter up with the Board of Trade and they put it to Messrs. Wimpey & Co., but I am sorry to say that the latter have now replied that after considering the matter carefully and consulting the American Bechtel Corporation, they feel that their present arrangements for the recruitment of labour for this project are so far advanced that they must be allowed to stand until they have had experience of them. Should they then find that they wish to draw on further sources of labour they will consider the Arab refugees.

3. It occurs to us that to forestall a similar situation arising in connexion with other projects, U.N.R.W.A. might consider sending a circular to all the main British, American and other foreign firms which are carrying out contracts in the area, including Iraq and Saudi-Arabia, and suggest that they should consider employing refugee labour. The circular should, we suggest, indicate in as much detail as possible, the range of skills available among the refugees, and the numbers in each trade. U.N.R.W.A. would of course, have to negotiate with the governments concerned for the admission of the refugee labour for these firms, on a temporary basis.

4. I am asking the Board of Trade to prepare a list of British firms who might be approached in this connexion, and hope to be able to send this to you by next week's bag.

(C. Waterlow)

O. Myers, Esq.,
Beirut.

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E E 1826/121.

FROM

Mr. G. C. Mayhew
Amman.
to Mr. Richmond

No. 11001/66

Dated 24. 12. 52

Received in Registry— 31. 12. 52

$11 million U.N.R.W.A. programme in Jordan.

Asks to be informed if details already supplied by Sir H. Knight are insufficient

References

-1116

MINUTES

[illegible]
3/1

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)

[illegible] 3/1

(Index)

[illegible] 10/2/53

42863

E/1826/121

COMMERCIAL SECRETARIAT
BRITISH EMBASSY
AMMAN

E

11051/66
CONFIDENTIAL

24th December 1952

Dear Richmond,

When I spoke to you in London at the end of November you told me that you wanted details of the expenditure of the $11 million UNRWA programme in Jordan.

EE1826/116

I see that Sir Henry Knight has sent you details of the programme with his letter No.AC218 of 12th December and I assume that they are the same as those handed to Walker recently by Pruen, the deputy UNRWA Officer in Amman. The papers we were given gave a complete break-down of expenditure past, present and intended.

If my assumption is correct I take it that these details provide the information you wanted. If Sir Henry's enclosures are not in fact the same as ours perhaps you will let me know when I will arrange to have copies made here and sent to you.

I am copying this letter to Sir Henry Knight in Beirut.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Mayhew

(G.C.MAYHEW)

J.C.B.Richmond, Esq.,
Middle East Secretariat,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

RECEIVED IN C.I.
31 DEC 1952
SENT TO DEPT.
2.1.52

1952

E

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

PALESTINE

E F 1826/122.

FROM

Mr. Furlonge
Amman

to Mr. Ross

No. 1100/58

Dated 14. 12. 52

Received in Registry— 21. 12. 52

Discussion paper submitted by Mr. Pruen to Mr. Blandford on development by U.N.R.W.A. in Jordan.

References

ET 1101/24 - Dft
EE 1826/15
116

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Dft) Mr. Furlonge Amman
from Mr. Ross. 12 Jan
Copies to Sir A. Knight
Mr. Samuel Jones and
Mr. A.A.B. Duncan Washington
Sir T. Rapp Tel Aviv
Dft) Sir A. Knight, Beirut
from Mr. Richmond. 12 Jan

(Action completed)

19/1

(Index)

14/1/53

MINUTES

Mr. Furlonge reports that ~~you and~~ UNRWA are considering a paper which advocates the Agency's investing reintegration funds in Jordan for general economic development instead of insisting on their being used solely for the benefit of refugees.

2. He wonders if UNRWA's terms of reference can be stretched to cover this proposal which he considers to be sound and he goes on to develop the following argument:

> Assuming that Syria will never admit enough refugees to reduce appreciably the numbers in Jordan, then Jordan must develop their economy sufficiently to absorb them.
>
> If UNRWA cannot finance the necessary economic development then H.M.G. should do so by reducing her contribution to UNRWA.

3. This argument must sound attractive in Amman but Mr. Furlonge himself points out what I think is the decisive objection to it in his paragraph 4(a). The American contribution to UNRWA is not permitted to exceed 70% of total contributions. To reduce our contribution would therefore automatically reduce the Agency's funds by more than the amount of our reduction. Its effect would be immediate and in addition the psychological effect on Congress might well be serious.

4. Moreover, although I agree that Syria is unlikely to admit refugees from Jordan or elsewhere in any immediate future I do not think we should abandon all hope of an eventual distribution of refugees more in accordance with the possibilities of economic development, since however much capital is invested in Jordan it is generally thought impossible for her to absorb all the refugees now in her territory.

5. I do not think therefore that this suggestion should be pursued and I attach a draft reply to Mr. Furlonge

6. I agree with Mr. Furlonge that Pruen's proposal is sensible and I think it might form the basis for a

revision/

revision of UNRWA's present terms of reference, which might enable the Agency to get away from the position of having large reintegration funds and small opportunities for using them. I think we ought to get hold of the paper if possible and I attach also a draft to Sir Henry Knight.

J.C.B. Richmond

(J. C. B. Richmond)
January 3rd, 1953.

E. Dear.

I agree with Mr. Richmond.

Jm. Hunter
5/1

G.H. Baker
5/1

A.D.M.R.
10/1

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

1. Mr Richmond
2. Enter

British Embassy,

AMMAN.

December 17th, 1952.

CONFIDENTIAL

11001/58

EE1826/22

Dear Archie,

I understand that Pruen, the Deputy for resettlement in the UNRWA Office here, has recently submitted to Blandford a paper on development by UNRWA in Jordan, in which he makes out a case for UNRWA spending money on the development of Jordan as a whole without specific relation to refugee resettlement. His main argument is apparently that UNRWA may have anything up to $100 million out of the programme for refugee reintegration to spend in Jordan during the next two or three years (apart of course from what they spend on refugee subsistence), as opposed to say $10 million for general development from British loans and Point IV together this year and possibly similar amounts next year and the year after; and that to spend so much greater a sum on the refugees only will cause increased hardship to the rest of the population (particularly, of course, the "economic refugees") and therefore risk creating political issues.

EE1826/116

2. This seems to raise a question of principle which is of direct relevance to our consideration of the expected Jordan request for a third British loan.

3. There seems to me to be a good deal of sense in Pruen's argument; and as you will have seen from paragraph 6 of my letter No.11017/6 of November 27th to Richmond the Jordan Minister of Economics seems to be pinning great hopes on UNRWA being prepared to adopt some such policy.

ET1151/27

4. On the other hand, I am not sure how far it would be practicable to stretch UNRWA's terms of reference, in the light of the relevant Assembly resolutions, to cover economic development in general in individual Arab States, rather than development designed to resettle refugees.

5. I take it that, in the light of the developments of the last few months, it can be taken pretty well for granted that the view I expressed in paragraph 4B of my letter No.18204/4 of March 31st to Jim Bowker, namely that Syria will never admit any appreciable quantity of refugees from Jordan or elsewhere for resettlement, is correct. In that event, it does seem essential to neglect no possibility of developing Jordan in the hopes that the refugees settled therein, as well as the economic refugees whom I personally regard as almost more important may at least benefit indirectly. If UNRWA cannot assist beyond a certain point to this end, then it seems to me that we ought to do so.

EE1826/15

6. Moreover, in Jordan, as apparently opposed to Syria, I have no doubt whatsoever that effective economic development can be carried out better by ourselves than by any international organisation. It is therefore

/tempting

A.D.M.Ross,Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London S.W.1.

RECEIVED IN C.B.
31 DEC 1952
SENT TO DEPT.
2. 1. 52

tempting to suggest that we might do better to withhold a portion of the contribution which we should otherwise be prepared to make to the resettlement part of the UNRWA programme, and instead to devote the money to increasing our direct contribution to Jordan economic development.

7. Personally, I would favour this course for the reasons given above. I realise, however, that any such suggestion would be liable to encounter opposition on the grounds that it might:-

(a) discourage the Americans and risk resulting in a heavy cut in their own appropriations for UNRWA; and/or

(b) be more difficult to defend in Parliament because of the uncertainty as to whether the money, if given to Jordan instead of to UNRWA, would in fact result in a sufficiently direct benefit to the refugees.

You may recall that two years or so ago George McGhee, Byroade's predecessor, showed signs of advocating that U.S. assistance to the refugees might be administered direct, rather than through UNRWA, but did not pursue it, presumably because he was advised that it would be more difficult to induce Congress to vote funds for direct aid to Arab States than for a contribution to a U.N.Agency.

8. I should welcome your views on these conflicting considerations, and should like, when I get them, to be authorised to discuss them with my U.S. colleague who I know has also been giving thought to the subject.

9. I am sending copies of this letter to Knight, Samuel, Rapp and Burrows.

Yours ever,
Geoffrey Furlonge

(G.W.Furlonge)

Registry
No. EE 1826/122

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
~~Open.~~

J.C.B.R

Draft. letter

CONFIDENTIAL

January, 1953.

G.W.Furlonge Esq.
British Embassy
Amman

(from Mr.Ross)

Thank you for your letter 11001/58 of December 17th about Pruen's paper to Blandford recommending that UNRWA should spend money on the development of Jordan as a whole without specific reference to refugees.

2. We agree with you that Pruen's argument seems sensible and are asking Sir Henry Knight to try and obtain a copy of his paper. The adoption of his proposals would presumably need approval by the General Assembly, since the Agency's funds were voted for refugees and not for general economic development of the Middle East. It might be possible to obtain such approval by using the argument that economic development must take place before any substantial number of refugees can be absorbed; unless UNRWA is enabled to use their reintegration funds for this purpose, opportunities for the employment of these funds for refugees' resettlement will be lacking and the funds themselves will melt away in relief payments; this process has already begun with the increase of relief approved by the General Assembly last autumn.

3. I do not think we could contemplate reducing our contribution to UNRWA's funds and increasing our direct contribution to Jordan's economic development. As pointed out in your paragraph 4(a), such a reduction would certainly be unwelcome to the Americans. Apart from the psychological effect on Congress which might well be serious, the American contribution to the Agency's total funds is held at 70% of the total

of/

Copies to:

Sir Henry Knight
K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
Beirut
Mr.A.C.I.Samuel
Damascus
Sir Thomas Rapp
Fayid
B.A.B.Burrows
Washington

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

51—4378

of contributions. The Agency's total funds would therefore be reduced automatically by an amount greater than the reduction in our own contribution. This reduction would moreover lay us open to the charge of sacrificing the refugees in order to consolidate our "imperialist" interests in Jordan and this line of attack might not be confined to Arabs. Again, although I agree that Syria is unlikely to admit refugees from Jordan or elsewhere in any immediate future, I do not think we should abandon all hopes of an eventual redistribution of refugees more in accordance with possibilities of economic development. Syria's final decision will I think depend on the success or failure of the economic reintegration of those refugees now in Syria. In any case it does not seem to be possible for Jordan to absorb all the refugees at present in her territories.

4. I am sending a copy of this letter to Knight, Samuel, Rapp, and Burrows.

Asmk

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

CONFIDENTIAL

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

EE 1826/122

12th January, 1953.

OUT FILE

Thank you for your letter 11001/58 of December 17th about Pruen's paper to Blandford recommending that UNRWA should spend money on the development of Jordan as a whole without specific reference to refugees.

2. We agree with you that Pruen's argument seems sensible and are asking Sir Henry Knight to try and obtain a copy of his paper. The adoption of his proposals would presumably need approval by the General Assembly, since the Agency's funds were voted for refugees and not for general economic development of the Middle East. It might be possible to obtain such approval by using the argument that economic development must take place before any substantial number of refugees can be absorbed; unless UNRWA is enabled to use their reintegration funds for this purpose opportunities for the employment of these funds for refugees' resettlement will be lacking and the funds themselves will melt away in relief payments; this process has already begun with the increase of relief approved by the General Assembly last autumn.

3. I do not think we could contemplate reducing our contribution to UNRWA's funds and increasing our direct contribution to Jordan's economic developmenr. As pointed out in your paragraph 4(a), such a reduction would certainly be unwelcome to the Americans. Apart from the psychological effect on Congress which might well be serious, the American contribution to the Agency's total funds is held at 70% of the total of contributions. The Agency's total funds would therefore be reduced automatically by an amount greater than the reduction in our own contribution. This reduction would moreover lay us open to the charge of sacrificing the refugees in order to consolidate our "imperialist" interests in Jordan and this line of attack might not be confined to Arabs. Again, although I agree that Syria is unlikely to admit refugees from Jordan or elsewhere in any immediate future, I do not think we should abandon all hopes of an eventual redistribution of refugees more in accordance with possibilities of economic development. Syria's final decision will I think depend on the success or failure of the economic reintration of those refugees now in Syria. In any case it does not seem to be possible for Jordan to absorb all the refugees at present in her territories.

4. I am sending a copy of this letter to Knight, Samuel, Rapp, and Burrows.

(A.D.M. Ross)

G.W. Furlonge, Esq.,
Amman.

Registry
No. EE 1826/122

~~Top Secret~~
~~Secret~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted~~
~~Open~~

Draft. letter

CONFIDENTIAL

January, 1953.

In his letter to Ross 11001/58 of December 17th Mr. Furlonge referred to a paper which Pruen has submitted to Blandford on development by UNRWA in Jordan.

2. We should be very interested to see a copy of this paper and would be grateful if you could obtain one for us.

A.D.M.K.

Sir Henry Knight
K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
Beirut

(from Mr.Richmond)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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~~DRAFT~~

CONFIDENTIAL

EE 1826/122

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

12th January, 1953.

[redacted]

In his letter to Ross 11001/58 of December 17th Furlonge referred to a paper which Pruen has submitted to Blandford on development by UNRWA in Jordan.

2. We should be very interested to see a copy of this paper and would be grateful if you could obtain one for us.

(J.C.B. Richmond)

Sir Henry Knight, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Beirut.

Resettlement of Arab refugees; programme of resettlement in Syria and Jordan. Code EE file 1826 (papers 101 to end). 1952. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1947-1970 FO 371/98515. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom).